

Abstract

Systems and methods secure a hard drive with a password. These systems and methods prevent unauthorized access to valuable data on the hard drive and prevent a hacker from sniffing the password as it is communicated over a bus. Data on the hard drive is protected, even if it is not encrypted. Responsibility for managing the security features is shared between the operating system and the BIOS in such a way as to maximize security and minimize boot time.

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EL833034162US

Date of Deposit: December 21, 2001

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